

# COMMISSION

FOR THE

## PUBLICATION OF THE ANCIENT LAWS AND INSTITUTES OF IRELAND.

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### REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1888.

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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

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# REPORT

OF THE

## BREHON LAW COMMISSIONERS.

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MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We beg to state for Your Excellency's information, that, since the date of our last Report, the work of preparing the remaining portion of the Brehon Laws for publication has been industriously prosecuted on the plan already laid down. The preparation of the text and translation has been steadily continued, and, concurrently with this, the materials for the glossary of technical and other obscure terms have been accumulated. The Fifth Volume will, we have every reason to expect, be entirely printed before April, 1890, and the whole work will be ready for issue in about two years from the present time.

The suggestion formerly made that Volumes V. and VI. should be issued separately has been recently repeated. But we regard ourselves as virtually under an engagement to the Editor that they should appear simultaneously, and we still think that arrangement the most desirable one. It is in the glossary, which will form the largest part of the Sixth Volume, that the Editor's comments on, and explanations of, difficult portions of the text will be embodied, and it appears to us both just and convenient that the whole of his work should be submitted at one and the same time to the examination of Celtic Scholars at home and abroad.

The Commissioners calculate that the sum of £200 which appeared in the Civil Service Estimates for the current year will be required before next April, for the purpose of paying in part for work done by the Editor.

For the ensuing year the Commissioners have no doubt that a like sum of £200 will be well earned. Accordingly they are of opinion that the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury should be asked to put that sum into the Estimates for the Financial year, ending in April, 1890.

Dated 29th January, 1889.

ASHBOURNE, G.  
C. LIMERICK.  
A. M. PORTER, M.R.  
WILLIAM O'BRIEN.  
✚ JOHN HEALY, D.D.  
JOHN O'HAGAN.  
JOHN K. INGRAM.

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